

THE ADVENTURES OF TARZAN

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Episode #3

"THE SUN DEATH"

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from the story THE RETURN OF TARZAN by Edgar Rice Burroughs

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Continuing from Episode #2 -- As Tarzan hits the base of the aperture made by the parting of the earth, he slides out of sight into an underground chamber of the City of Opar. Discovering his whereabouts, which he knows from a previous visit to the City of Opar, Tarzan takes note of the tunnels and starts forward.

Jane on the Altar shows greater fear of the volcanic eruption, than of the descending knife of La, while Rokoff in the midst of the Pygmies, who bow and scrape to the earth, in their supplication to the Sun, and thus doing, present Rokoff with his opportunity to make good his escape. Rokoff hastens to Jane.

Tarzan continues to search the mysterious chambers of the City of Opar, listening intently as guided on by the chanting supplication of the Pygmies.

La, the High Priestess of the Sun, discovers at the disappearance of Rokoff, accompanied by the great Bull Ape and a High Priest leave the Pygmies in prayer and seek their prisoners. Rokoff succeeds in stealing Jane from the sacrificial altar and bears her away into an inner chamber, a vault of solid gold. Here Rokoff promises to save Jane from the Pygmies, if she will give her love to him.

Tarzan reaches the sacrificial altar, and there is discovered by La, the High Priest and the Bull Ape. La seeing the man whom she has formerly declared her love for, orders the Bull Ape and Priest to leave her. The Bull Ape seeing Tarzan shows his fear and slinks away, hidden by the body of the High Priest. La tries her fascination on Tarzan, she pours forth her love for him, shows her great joy at seeing him again and offers him the untold riches of the City of Opar, if he will put give her his love. She swears to make him the king of her people.

Leaving La and Tarzan, we pick up Rokoff with Jane in the vault of gold. Rokoff discovers huge piles of fagots of virgin gold. Here the greed of the man supplants his avowed love of Jane.

He entreats Jane to say that she will be his and share with him the great fortune before their eyes. Jane refuses, believing that Tarzan, if still alive, will come to her rescue. On her refusal Rokoff loses his temper and seeks something on which to draw the plans of the treasure vault of Opar. Taking a pin from his shirt he draws on Jane's shoulder the map of the treasure vault.

Returning to Tarzan and La, Tarzan refuses the offer of the Priestess and demands to know what has become of Jane. Instantly La's jealousies are aroused. Seeking to learn of Tarzan's sentiments La tells him that Jane has been destroyed. Instantly Tarzan becomes the Bull Ape of the Savage, threatening to wreck the vengeance of the wild upon the people of Opar.

The High Priest and Bull Ape watch this scene and gather about them, the Warriors and Women of Opar, as they see Tarzan's threatening attitude toward their High Priestess, who begs Tarzan to put the thought of Jane out of his mind, and take her in Jane's stead.

Leaving Tarzan, we return to Jane who fights off Rokoff's attack and determines to give herself to the Sun Goddess rather than to Rokoff.

Returning to Tarzan, we see the Pygmies of Opar led on by the Bull Ape and the High Priest overpower Tarzan with their bludgeons binding him with thongs of leather. Once bound, the Bull Ape attempts to avenge himself on Tarzan, and receives for his efforts a kick that lands him in the midst of the Pygmies. Slowly La's knife lowers over Elmo's chest. Now Rokoff, determined to take Jane with him, forces the Girl through an aperture on the hillside leading to the open country. As Rokoff

attempts to force Jane through the opening, the latter hears the chant of the Pygmies. This gives her the thought that perhaps Tarzan has followed to save her and has himself become the Pygmies sacrifice to the Sun. She screams to Tarzan through the caves and tunnels to Opar, Rokoff attempting to cut off her voice.

Tarzan hears Jane's voice, and with a superhuman effort, breaks the bounds that bind him. As the Pygmies rush Tarzan, he ropes one of them with his rope and makes a sling of him, keeping the others off. Their forces scattered by Tarzan's attack, the Pygmies flee. Tarzan following the direction of Jane's voice rushes through the tunnel, attempting to find Jane. He finds Rokoff carrying Jane away. A fight ensues.

La commanders her forces and starts in pursuit of Tarzan. Overpowering Rokoff, Tarzan sends forth his great yell of victory. Jane hearing this rushes to Tarzan. The searching parties rush madly through the tunnel in search of Tarzan. Tarzan placing through the opening to the outer world, barricades the entrance into the treasure vault to block the onrush of the Pygmies, giving Jane a chance to get away. Rokoff regains consciousness and crawls stealthily to the pile of fagots, seeking an instrument with which he may remove Tarzan forever from his path.

Jane once into the open crawls up the sheer wall of rock, attempting to gain the summit.

La commanders her Pygmies to recapture Tarzan, who ignorant of Rokoff's recovery fights desperately to keep the Pygmies from the Treasure vaults, giving Jane a chance to escape.

In the meantime a pack of Lions have seen Jane in the rocks and start to surround her. Jane discovering this, races back toward the opening where Tarzan may protect her.

Rokoff, in the meantime, slinks up behind Tarzan, and with a heavy fagot of gold, knocks Tarzan senseless. The Pygmies at once bear Tarzan on towards the sacrificial altar, while La expresses her gratitude to Rokoff, for what she thinks he has done in her behalf. The Pygmies place Tarzan on the sacrificial altar, when Rokoff seizing a huge disk of virgin gold, places it, so that the Sun's rays are intensified, as they strike the body of the unconscious Tarzan.

Jane, enters the treasure vault through the aperture opening, racing away from the lions, as Jane lowers herself through the opening, the Lions race over her into the treasure vaults, Tarzan is shown with the reflected rays of the Sun burning him, as this scene develops, cut. End of Episode 3.

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